

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

ACTION OES-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	INL-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	EAP-00	EB-00	OIGO-00
	E-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	HHS-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	IO-00	L-00	VCE-00	MOFM-00	MOF-00	AC-00	DCP-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	NSF-01	OIC-00	NIMA-00	EPAU-00	PM-00
	PRS-00	ACE-00	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	FMP-00	BBG-00
	EPAE-00	PMB-00	G-00	SAS-00	/002W		

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FM AMEMBASSY HANOI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7269  
INFO AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH CITY  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU

UNCLAS HANOI 000820

SIPDIS

STATE FOR OES - MARSHA GOLDBERG, FABIO SATURNI  
STATE FOR OES - JAMES STORY, STETSON TINKHAM  
STATE PASS TO USAID/ANE - TIM RESCH, PATRICIA CHAPLIN  
STATE PASS TO NOAA/OIA - JONATHAN JUSTI, NOAA SPINRAD  
BANGKOK FOR ECON JIM WALLER  
BANGKOK FOR USAID/RDMA TBEANS, WBOWMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [SENV](#) [KSCA](#) [TBIO](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: VIETNAM: NOAA'S SPINRAD SUPPORTS ICM ACTIVITIES

REF: A) HANOI 766 B) HANOI 515

11. Summary. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Ocean Service Assistant Administrator Dr. Richard Spinrad led a seven-person NOAA delegation to attend a March 13-16 wrap-up workshop of the EAP-EI/USAID/NOAA funded project to build capacity for integrated coastal management in the Tonkin Gulf. Spinrad's visit to Hanoi and Ha Long City, Vietnam, highlighted the good cooperation between Vietnam and United States on science and technology, particularly in the areas of coastal management, oil spill planning and weather/flood forecasting. STATE/USAID/NOAA support during 2002-2005 has been about USD 850,000 for projects for Integrated Coastal Management (ICM). End Summary.

12. On March 14-16, NOAA National Ocean Service Assistant Administrator Dr. Richard Spinrad led a seven-person NOAA delegation to attend the final workshop in Phase I of the EAP-EI/USAID/NOAA project, "Building Capacity for ICM in the Tonkin Gulf." Ref A described findings of the workshop. Spinrad also met with Minister of Fisheries Ta Quan Ngoc and Vice President of the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology Dr. Nguyen Khoa Son. Spinrad made a presentation on the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy (USCOP) and the U.S. Ocean Action Plan to Vice Minister of Fisheries Nguyen Viet Thang, Hai Phong People's Committee Vice Chairmen Nguyen Van Thanh and Quang Ninh People's Committee Representative Tran Duc Lam.

13. Spinrad met with Minister of Fisheries Ta Quang Ngoc on March 16. The Minister noted that fisheries are a vital economic and food resource for the Vietnamese people, especially the poor. The Minister expressed gratitude for U.S. cooperation and support for coastal management initiatives in Vietnam that could expand to include fisheries resource conservation. Expressing a desire to move from multilateral (e.g. APEC) and bilateral talks to develop long-term technical assistance activities, the Minister noted that Vietnam is seeking solutions and new approaches to improve ocean governance effectiveness. He was pleased to receive a copy of the U.S. Ocean Action Plan.

14. Spinrad also called on Dr. Nguyen Khoa Son, the Vice President of the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology (VAST). Son listed VAST's priorities as follows: biotechnology, information technology, environmental technology, biological research, marine science and technology, disaster prevention, electronics and instrumentation as well as seismology and earthquakes. VAST's annual budget for its 18 research institutes, including the National Oceanographic Institute, is about USD 50-80 million. VAST is building new laboratories (USD 3 million each) for genetics, information technology/electronics and plant science technology. Future laboratories are reportedly planned to include microbiology, robotics and satellite/earth observation.

15. Remarking on the good cooperation between Vietnam and the United States in science and technology, Son expressed his

strong interest in expanding scientific cooperation with NOAA, especially in oceanography. Son wants to expand bilateral cooperation beyond short visits between researchers and to engage in joint research projects. However, he needs to find financial support and to identify mechanisms to fund United States-Vietnam research projects.

16. STATE/USAID/NOAA support during 2002-2005 is approximately USD 850,000, funding projects such as "Building Capacity for Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) in Tonkin Gulf", "Improved Oil Spill Contingency Planning in Saigon River" and "Establishing Pilot Marine Protected Area (MPA) Training and Certification Program in Vietnam." NOAA has recently submitted a proposal to continue the ICM project in Vietnam, which Post strongly endorses (Ref A).

MARINE

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